



REPORT

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO TO THE PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

DATE ISSUED: January 7, 2015 REPORT NO. 201

ATTENTION: Park and Recreation Board
Agenda of January 15, 2015

SUBJECT: Big Belly Recycling Program

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATIONAL ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE BOARD.

As part of a second phase, the Park and Recreation Department and Environmental Services Department plan to install big belly recycling units alongside existing big belly trash units in three parks (one southern, one northern, and one shoreline park). Phase 2 installation of big belly recycle bins was presented as an information item at the Community Parks I Area Committee meeting on June 4, 2014. It was presented as an information item at the Community Parks II Area Committee meeting on July 9, 2014.

BACKGROUND

The Park and Recreation Department and the Environmental Services Department partnered to initiate a pilot program to install solar-powered, "big belly" trash compactor cans at three parks. The solar powered compressor units were installed at Camino Ruiz Neighborhood Park, Kellogg (La Jolla Shores) Park, and Montgomery Waller Community Park. The total cost of Phase I installation was \$168,408, which was funded by the Environmental Services Department. The pilot program started on March 28, 2011, and it concluded on September 25, 2011. This pilot program was considered a success, and big belly trash units are still in use at these three sites today.

The purpose of the program was to reduce the frequency that staff would need to change trash liners, which improved efficiency and realized cost savings for the City. The need to service the big belly units with less frequency resulted in an 88% decrease of service during the pilot program, which allowed Grounds Maintenance Workers to spend that additional time addressing other maintenance needs in the parks.


The success of the pilot program has prompted the City to proceed with Phase 2, which includes the installation of big belly recycling units at these three parks. A total of 37 recycle units will be paired with the existing big belly trash cans. The total cost of Phase 2 is \$71,500. This cost is being funded by the Environmental Services Department as part of their efforts to increase recycling in public areas throughout the City. The new recycle bins have been installed at all three parks.

The recycle bins will be situated next to the "big belly" trash compactor cans but are not compactor units. Park and Recreation Department staff will collect the recyclables at the same time that they are changing the trash liners so the addition of the recycle units will have minimal operational impact. Grounds Maintenance workers will deposit the recyclables into existing recycle dumpsters that are serviced in the parks, and staff is not responsible for sorting and segregating non-recyclable product as this is done off-site.

The project is consistent with the City of San Diego Zero Waste plan, and the Environmental Services Department is continuing to explore strategies to achieve a 75% reduction by 2020 and zero waste by 2040.

Respectfully submitted,



David Monroe
Deputy Director
Community Parks II Division

Prepared by: Manuel Gonzalez
District Manager, District 42
Community Parks II Division

DM/mg

Attachment:

1. Map with location of Big Belly Units

cc: Council President Sherri Lightner, Council District 1
Councilmember Chris Cate, Council District 6
Councilmember David Alvarez, Council District 8